



Project template: Fiesta! - good for 7-11 or mixed ages

Summary	Choose two dates during the year to exchange festivals. They don't need to be the biggest festivals - don't forget pancake day, Mother's day and so on. One month beforehand, each school will prepare a special 'guide' to help their partner school to understand and celebrate an unfamiliar festival. Agree carefully with the partner school to avoid religious practices being shared inappropriately and focus on customs, games, food, dress etc.
First activity	Prepare a 'pack' that includes carefully written instructions, history, labelled diagrams, photos and recipes. This is ideal for team working. Send off your pack in good time and keep copies.
Exchange	Photograph the pack arriving and being opened. Keep a diary of preparations for the festival day and record what you do with photos and video if possible. Send photos by SMS or email to your partner school.
Share	Create a display board or scrapbook showing your pack and the pictures from the partner school. Repeat the exercise in the other direction at a later date in the year!
Extension activities	Invite other schools, parents or local community to your 'festival'.
Useful resources	<p>http://www.assemblies.org.uk is useful for all age groups and includes background and texts.</p> <p>http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/religion/ lists major festivals of world religions.</p> <p>http://www.ourworldfestivals.com/ explains more about English festival traditions and also has a multicultural strand and events.</p> <p>http://www.elanguages.org/48765 - example of a Fiesta project.</p>



Connecting Classrooms

Joint Curriculum Project Notes

Project: Fiesta! - good for 7-11 or mixed ages

Aims and Outcomes: This project invites students to research and collect information about festivals in their country and then to share this information with a partner school. They will work as a team to prepare their guides on the chosen festivals. They will also find out about festivals which are celebrated in the country of their partner schools.

UK Curriculum links:

History key stage 3

The '*Fiesta*' project fits in well with the key concepts of History at Key Stage 3.

1.5 Significance

Considering the significance of events, people and developments in their historical context and in the present day

Modern Foreign Languages key stage 3

This project also fits in with the key concepts of Modern Foreign Languages at Key Stage 3

1.4 Intercultural understanding

Appreciating the richness and diversity of other cultures.

Recognising that there are different ways of seeing the world, and developing an international outlook.

This project could nicely tie into key concepts of Music Key Stage 3

1.2 Cultural understanding

Understanding musical traditions and the part music plays in national and global culture and in personal identity.

Citizenship key stage 3

This project also ties in with the key concept of Citizenship at Key Stage 3.

1.3 Identities and diversity: living together in the UK

Appreciating the differences and similarities between people, places, environments and cultures to inform their understanding of societies and economies.



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Religious Education key Stage 3

1.3 Expressing meaning

Appreciating that individuals and cultures express their beliefs and values through many different forms.

1.4 Identity, diversity and belonging

Understanding how individuals develop a sense of identity and belonging through faith or belief.

Cross-curriculum dimensions:

The 'Fiesta' project engages students in the following cross-curricular dimensions:

Identity and diversity

Students develop their own sense of belonging and self-esteem.

Students are given the opportunity to explore their own identities.

Students understand the multiple and shared identities, beliefs, cultures, traditions and histories of the people in the UK, and recognise that these have shaped and continue to shape life here.

Students are given the opportunity to communicate with people of different beliefs and faiths.

Community participation

Students recognise the value of diversity and expertise within their communities.

Global Dimension and sustainable development

Students communicate with people from a range of countries and cultures.

Personal, Learning and Thinking Skills:

The 'Fiesta' project helps learners develop the following PLTS areas:

Team workers: collaborate with others to work towards common goals and reach agreements. They take responsibility, showing confidence in themselves and their contribution.

Self-managers: work towards goals, showing initiative, commitment and perseverance. Students organise time and resources, prioritising actions.



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Key language:

Vocabulary to talk about festivals and traditions.

Vocabulary and structures to give recipes

The English language used in the 'Fiesta' project can be supported and extended through the following links from British Council's Learning English website:

Favourite Day Jigsaw Quiz about Christmas plus discussion questions

<http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/my-favourite-day-christmas>

Favourite Day Jigsaw Quiz about Chinese New Year plus listening activity

<http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/my-favourite-day-chinese-new-year>

Favourite Day Jigsaw Quiz about Diwali plus listening activity

<http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/short-stories/my-favourite-day-diwali>

Giving a recipe game for a banana milkshake

<http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/language-games/order-the-sentences/banana-milkshake>

Around the world winter festival quiz

<http://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/practise-your-english/winter-festivals>